



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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JULY 2017

Confirmation 2017



On Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017, Richie Hogge, Emily Lewis, Daniel Moughon and Joice Small were confirmed in the United Methodist Church. Pastor John, Pat Gwaltney and I met with these wonderful young people for several weeks starting in February on Sunday afternoons. Pastor John developed the confirmation curriculum (I helped a bit J) – it included the following topics: the early church, the Reformation and the Church of England; God the Creator, God calls people through history; Jesus, Son of God, Savior, Lord; by grace through faith: new birth, children of God; church and the kingdom of God; Wesley and Methodism; following Jesus: discipleship; and prayer and the Christian.

At the end of the classes, the youth answered a series of review questions. Confirmation is an opportunity to respond to the grace of God available to us, as acknowl-

edged in our baptisms, and to promise to live as people of faith. Confirmation and reaffirmation are our responses of commitment, profession of faith and rededication. Although confirmation is not a sacrament in the Methodist church (we have 2 sacraments – baptism and communion), it is an important step in our spiritual journey.

During the service, the confirmands answered for themselves the same questions their parents did when they were baptized. They then knelt before Pastor John, family and friends with laying on of hands and the following words were spoken, "The Holy Spirit work within you that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ." The confirmands then took the vow of membership in the United Methodist Church – because our journey in the Christian faith is not intended to be a solo venture, throughout the service the congregation renewed their baptism vows, professed their faith together with the confirmands, promised to do all in their power to support these newest professing members, and with them renewed their covenant to be the body of Christ for the world.

After the service, we had a wonderful reception with cake, punch and some of the favorite cookies of the confirmands – they were presented with certificates and gifts from the congregation – cross lapel pins for Daniel and Richie, cross necklaces for Emily and Joice, Bibles engraved with their names, a year subscription to

Devozine (a daily devotion magazine for youth) and bookmarks from the Mission and Evangelism Team.

It was a privilege and honor for Pastor John, Pat and I to work with these youth – they are articulate, funny, full of life and truly a joy to be with.

Janet Gomez

From the Pastor's Pen

Many years ago, I was in a Bible study together with a Dr. Bill Kim. A recently retired surgeon, he had a habit of reading his Bible in the morning. What impressed me was that he stuck to his routine even when traveling or on vacation! Clearly, it was for him something that grounded him spiritually and not merely a dutiful exercise.

Aside from the Sunday school or worship, what habit do you have that helps you stay connected to God? Corporate worship is important, and so are many other church activities. But great church programs cannot entirely constitute our personal walk with God itself. In my view, it is impossible to lead a spiritual life until we somehow connect with God on our own between Sundays.

Willow Creek Community Church near Chicago has more than 20,000 attend one of its services every weekend. In 2007 the church came out with a surprising 'confession' following an ex-

tensive, multi-year survey. One of the summary statements reads:

"We made a mistake. What we should have done when people crossed the line of faith and become Christians, we should have started telling people and teaching people that they have to take responsibility to become 'self-feeders.' We should have gotten people, taught people, how to read their Bible between services, how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own."

Summer is often travel time, and the rhythm of the church life seems to slow down. Yet this should be when we further invest in our personal spiritual practices. After all, we need to live with God at all times; we need to remain connected.

I would like to especially recommend the Scripture for those who feel 'stuck' or looking for an open door in life. For all the talk of 'augmented reality' these days, nothing puts our reality in a new light like the stories of God in the Bible: The God who makes a way through the sea, the God who was revealed in Jesus of Nazareth, who comes alongside of us today through the Holy Spirit.

May your summer be enriched spiritually!

Gratefully,

John



Greeters/Ushers for July

8:30 am service	Hal & Patty Hertzler Gerald & Frosty Taylor
11:00 am service	Nancy & Jerry Jagger

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the Families of...

Elise Haynes	
Audrey Ripley	
Ricky Haywood	

Children's Ministry

Vacation Bible School at Central is just a month away. We are down to serious planning. We need volunteers for refreshments, crafts, games, music, registration, guides, teachers, scenery, set up, clean up and whatever I have missed. The dates are Thursday through Sunday, July 20, 21, 22, 23, from 6:30 P. M. til 8:30 P.M. Our theme is **Camp Out, Getting S'more of Jesus**. Look for registration forms in your bulletins and in the mail. Grades prekindergarten through the 5th grade for classes. Older youth are invited to assist in any activity they feel called to do so. Please consult Janet Gomez, Katherine Small, Rev. Choi or Pat Gwaltney with questions or to volunteer. Come join us under God's sky for a rousing Vacation Bible School.

"Young people are the NOW, not just the future", Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

Pat Gwaltney,

Chairperson of Children's Ministry



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Oases of the Spirit

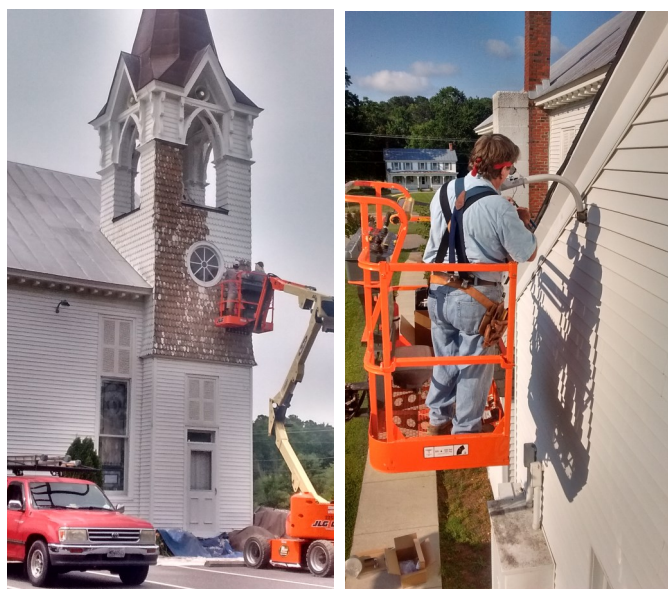
In July and August there will be a weekly meeting for hymn singing and scriptural meditation on Tuesday evenings, beginning on July 11. We will sing from the United Methodist Hymnal, Cokesbury Hymnals, and The Faith We Sing. We will also emerge ourselves in a particular Scripture passage with a Lectio-Divina pattern of repeated hearing, silence, and prayer. No advance preparation is necessary. Come to an "oasis" of the Spirit!

John Choi

Works Done On the Building

Last year, while installing new carillon speakers, members of the Trustees discovered that our steeple was in dire need of repair. The Administrative Council gave an approval for the project last fall. The work finally commenced this year with the arrival of warm weather, and for nearly three weeks Hugh Morris and the crew chipped away rotted wood, provided additional support and repainted the structure.

In addition, the security lights were replaced with more energy efficient LED lightings in June. We are grateful to Ken Lee and Joe Arnold for masterfully installing them.



Photos by John Choi

Nancy Wroten Memorial Class

The Nancy Wroten Memorial Class would like to thank everyone who donated to the *Father's Day Tribute Bulletin*. The proceeds will be used to aid those in need in our community.

Health and Welfare Committee

Now that summer is here, our most frequent request for financial assistance, which is to help with the exorbitant cost of winter heating, has subsided. It is a blessing to have this more quiet time to replenish our funds and prepare for the future. Thanks to all whose support makes this possible.

Helen Lee



Hospitality Committee

Some suggestions that were presented to the church council last month have been given to the Trustees committee for their consideration. The hospitality team agreed to send small flower arrangements to Richard Sadler, Phyllis Lewis, Mildred Ford, Mary Keene and Ann Ruth Collier. Each of them received a visit from our Pastor as well. An arrangement also was sent to Elizabeth and Durward Anderson from their church family hoping to add a bit of cheer to Durward's room.

The greeters and ushers for the early service for the month were Grace Mortimer, Dee Bane, Peggy Kava, Hal and Patty Hertzler. Mark and Brenda Lewis greeted the late service attendants.

Refreshments were served by Patty, Sherry, John and Jean. Also a delightful spread was enjoyed by all on Father's Day presented by Dale Martin and Karen Palmer as a tribute to the fathers. Dee Bane, David Hudgins and Frosty Taylor provided refreshments as well.

Our committee also assisted the evangelism committee with setting up tables for the confirmation reception. Mark Lewis arranged the flowers in beautiful colors. Thanks to all who participated in any way.

We also have been recipients of a double chaf-

ing dish for use by the church. Mary Sears Davis is the donor. Dick Flegenheimer donated burners to be used with the dish before he moved.

Hospitality Team

UMW

We have packed our kits and sent to conference. We had 32.

After months of lots of mission work we will take July off and then start back

August 25th hosting the Three Rivers Healthy Families with a picnic.....

Our Ice Cream Social will be Sunday September 17 at 2:30 with the Bay Belles.

Nancy Jagger

Church Picnic

Monday, August 7

2:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Mathews Yacht Club

Dinner @ 6 pm

- bring your favorite dish to share (fried chicken provided)
- casual attire
- pool open for all
- lifeguard on duty
- homemade Ice cream

Invite A Friend!

Creation Care

Household Chemical Collections and Computer Recycling will be on **Saturday August 19** from 8:00 to 12:00. It will be held in Cobbs Creek. Creation Care Reminder: Additional information will be given out before that event.



In July, Centrals' Creation Care Team will be doing several Recycle Presentations for the **Mathews Boys and Girls Club's Summer Program**.



Michael Cannon, Chairman Creation Care

Mission and Evangelism:

June has been a God blessed month. Graduations, weddings, school out, reunions, Fathers' Day and Annual Conference, just to name a few wonderful events. I personally would like to thank the Administrative Board and the congregation for letting me attend the Annual Conference in Hampton, Va. The Conference will always be a memorial event for me. There were many dynamic speakers, but the three that stood out for me were Resident Bishop Sharma D. Lewis, Bishop James Edward Swanson, Sr. of Mississippi, and Rev Dr. Debra Wallace-Padgett from Kentucky. Topics ranged from "**Engage Me**", by the youth to "**Go Do God's Work**", Bishop Swanson, to "**Making Disciples for Jesus Christ**", Bishop Lewis. The music was most inspiring (by Rev. Robert McMichael). I hope our congregation will go to the Annual Conference website for a viewing of this conference.

Mission and Evangelism Committee will meet the third Wednesday in July at 10:00 A.M. We will be planning for Market Days in September. We welcome volunteers to help with this event. We will plan to do waters again and out "Early Bird Breakfast". Come help us further our mission outreach.

Pat Gwaltney,

Chairperson of Mission and Evangelism

5th Sunday Joint Service
July 30
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am
Song Service 2:15 pm
at Riverside Convalescent
Center - All Are Welcome

WORSHIP
cliparthut.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 J U L Y	3 Prayer Time 8:00 am Women's Choir 7:00 pm	4 Fourth of July  pixabay.com	5 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm VBS Planning 6:30 - 7:30pm	6 Adult Choir 7:15 pm	7	8
9	10 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	11 Oases of the Spirit 7:00 - 8:00 pm	12 Finance 7:00 pm	13 Adult Choir 7:15 pm Nominations 4:00 pm	14	15
16 <i>Central Chimes Submissions Due</i>	17 Prayer Time 8:00 am Disaster Response Team 2:00 pm	18 Creation Care 9:00 am Oases of the Spirit 7:00 - 8:00 pm	19 Mission & Evangelism 9:00 am	20 VBS 6:30 - 8:30 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	21 VBS 6:30 - 8:30 pm	22 VBS 6:30 - 8:30 pm
23 VBS Closing 11:00 am	24 Prayer Time 8:00 am Trustees 7:00 pm	25 Oases of the Spirit 7:00 - 8:00 pm	26 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	27 Adult Choir 7:15 pm	28	29
30 5th Sun. Joint Service 9:00 am Sun. School 10:00 am Worship Song Service @ Nursing Home 2:15 pm	31 Prayer Time 8:00 am	 pixabay.com				

Birthdays

Betty Lewis	1	Judy Moughon	20
Mary Marshall	8	Tim Hill	26
Maymie Lambert	11	Alvin Knight	27
		David Hudgins	29

Anniversaries

Elizabeth & Durward Anderson	2
Miriam & Joe Cromwell	7
Audrey & Alvin Knight	14
Peg & Paul Kava	20
Betty & Jimmy Stewart	23